



Urbandale
 United
 Church of
 Christ
 God is still speaking

“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are invited and welcome here.”

A Just Peace and Open and Affirming congregation

March 15, 2020

10:00 a.m.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

The liturgical color for the Sundays in Lent is violet, representing repentance, sorrow and the mourning of royalty. We are leaving the sanctuary without banners to underscore how stark life is without God.



SERVING AT URBANDALE UCC THIS SUNDAY

Liturgist: Liz Colton

Ushers & Greeters: Bob & Diane Shoemaker, Walt & Barb Rehberg

Acolytes: Grace Beasley & Noelle Beasley

Nursery: Anjy Allen & Cadence Davis

Opening the Church: Today, Mark Siegel **Next Sunday,** Jerry Woods

Sound Booth: Scott Gardner

GATHERING

We extend a special welcome to our visitors. Nametags and information packets are available at the welcome table at the main entrance to the sanctuary. Childcare is available in the nursery for children ages birth through seven. Please see an usher for location if you wish to use the nursery.

GREETING

“After digging a thousand wells of my own and stumbling upon a thousand others dug by the hands of thirsty (people), I have yet to realize that the only well that can satiate every thirst is the one that people will never dig.”
 Craig D. Lounsbrough

TIME OF FRIENDSHIP *(Please ask before hugging or shaking hands with someone)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Rain Down”
 Raggedy Band

Jaime Cortez

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES *Their flames symbolizing God’s Spirit.*

❖ *This symbol invites the congregation to stand in body or spirit*
Bold type indicates a unison response

❖ CALL TO PRAISE AND PRAYER

ONE: We gather in this place because our spirits have become dry and parched, and our thirst drives us into the presence of God.

ALL: Those who drink what God provides will never thirst again. The water God gives will become fountains within them, springing up to provide eternal life.

ONE: We gather in this community so that we may hear the testimony of those who have come to faith, and find hope in what God is doing.

ALL: No longer does our faith depend on the stories of others, we can hear for ourselves, and we know that this really is the savior of the world.

ONE: We gather so that we can join our voices in praise and our hearts in worship, for that is our fullest joy!

ALL: The hour is upon us when real worshipers will worship Abba God in Spirit and truth. God is Spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth!

❖ INVOCATION

PROCLAMATION

ANTHEM

“Blest Are They”
Adult Choir

arr. Mark Hayes

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 4:5-42 (The Inclusive Bible)

⁵He stopped at Sychar, a town in Samaria, near the tract of land Jacob had given to his son Joseph, ⁶and Jacob’s well was there. Jesus, weary from the journey, came and sat by the well. It was around noon.

⁷When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink.” ⁸The disciples had gone off to the town to buy provisions.

⁹The Samaritan woman replied, “You are a Jew. How can you ask me, a Samaritan, for a drink?” – since Jews had nothing to do with Samaritans.

¹⁰Jesus answered, “If only you recognized God’s gift, and who it is that is asking you for a drink, you would have asked him for a drink instead, and he would have given you living water.”

¹¹“If you please,” she challenged Jesus, “you don’t have a bucket and this well is deep. Where do you expect to get this ‘living water’? ¹²Surely you don’t pretend to be greater than our ancestors Leah and Rachel and Jacob, who gave us this well and drank from it with their descendants and flocks?”

¹³Jesus replied, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again. ¹⁴But those who drink the water I give them will never be thirsty; no, the water I give will become fountains within them, springing up to provide eternal life.”

¹⁵The woman said to Jesus, “Give me this water, so that I won’t grow thirsty and have to keep coming all the way here to draw water.”

¹⁶Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband and then come back here.”

¹⁷“I don’t have a husband,” replied the woman.

“You’re right – you don’t have a husband!” Jesus exclaimed. ¹⁸The fact is, you’ve had five, and the man you’re living with now is not your husband. So what you’ve said is quite true.”

¹⁹“I can see you’re a prophet,” answered the woman. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you people claim that Jerusalem is the place where God ought to be worshiped.”

²¹Jesus told her, “Believe me, the hour is coming when you’ll worship Abba God neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You people worship what you don’t understand; we worship what we do understand – after all, salvation is from the Jewish people. ²³Yet the hour is coming – and is already here – when real worshipers will worship Abba God in Spirit and truth. Indeed, it is just such worshipers whom Abba God seeks. ²⁴God is Spirit, and those who worship God must worship in spirit and truth.”

²⁵The woman said to Jesus, “I know that the Messiah – the Anointed One – is coming and will tell us everything.”

²⁶Jesus replied, “I who speak to you am the Messiah.”

²⁷The disciples, returning at this point, were shocked to find Jesus having a private conversation with a woman. But no one dared to ask, “What do you want of him?” or “Why are you talking with her?”

²⁸The woman then left her water jar and went off into the town. She said to the people, ²⁹“Come and see someone who told me everything I have ever done! Could this be the Messiah?” ³⁰At that, everyone set out from town to meet Jesus.

³¹Meanwhile, the disciples were urging Jesus, “Rabbi, eat something.”

³²But Jesus told them, “I have food to eat that you know nothing about.

³³At this, the disciples said to one another, “Do you think someone has brought him something to eat?”

³⁴Jesus explained to them,

“Doing the will of the One who sent me and bringing this work to completion is my food.

³⁵Don’t you have a saying, ‘Four months more and it will be harvest time’?

I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields – they’re ripe and ready for harvest!

³⁶Reapers are already collecting their wages; they’re gathering fruit for eternal life, And sower and reaper will rejoice together.

³⁷So the saying is true: ‘One person sows; another reaps.’

³⁸I have sent you to reap what you haven't worked for.

Others have done the work, and you've come upon the fruits of their labor."

³⁹Many Samaritans from that town believed in Jesus on the strength of the woman's testimony – that "he told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰The result was that, when these Samaritans came to Jesus, they begged him to stay with them awhile. So Jesus stayed there two days, ⁴¹and through his own spoken word many more came to faith. ⁴²They told the woman, "No longer does our faith depend on your story. We've heard for ourselves, and we know that this really is the savior of the world."

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

SERMON "Spirit and Truth" Pastor Dave

HYMN "We Stand Humbly in God's Grace" SPP 24

RESPONSE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen, Amen. Forever and ever. Amen, Amen.

PRESENTATION OF OUR GIFTS

ONE: God is good!

ONE: All the time!

ALL: All the time!

ALL: God is good!

ONE: Let us share the goodness of our God!

When the offering plate comes to you, we invite you to hold it for a moment and consider the many gifts that you can share. You may pray for a person or a ministry; you may commit yourself to a specific act of compassion; or you may resolve to work on a relationship that is in need of repair. Allow the Spirit to guide your thoughts.

OFFERTORY "Grace Greater than Our Sin" Daniel Towner
Raggedy Band Stan Pethel

Please sign the Pew Pad and pass it to your neighbor.

❖ DOXOLOGY tune: *Old Hundredth*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

❖ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

❖ CLOSING HYMN "Jesus, Lover of My Soul" Hymnal 546

The candles are extinguished.

God's Spirit remains as a living flame in the hearts of God's people.

❖ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Celtic Alleluia" Fintan O'Carroll
Raggedy Band

Please reshelve the hymnals and put this used Bulletin in the recycle basket.

PRAYER CONCERNS

To list someone in this section, *with their permission*, please email staff@urbucc.org by the weekly bulletin deadline.

Keep in your thoughts and prayers:

Jamel Carter...Don Walters

And our dear ones: **Laurayne Robinette...Alma Sims...Margaret Messenger**

Our member in seminary: **David Sheridan**

Awaiting ordination: **Lisa Griffith-Tierney**

Mission Partnership: **Simply Smiles Inc. & Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe**

To notify the staff of a prayer concern, please use the slips of paper in the pew rack and drop them in the offering plate.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry provides prayer shawls to people experiencing difficult circumstances or life transitions. For more information, email prayer.shawls@urbucc.org.

This Week at UCC

Sunday, March 15

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir & Raggedy Band

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Monday, March 16

6:00 pm Book Club

6:00 pm Hunger Hike

Tuesday, March 17

6:00 pm Parenting Way

6:30 pm Bible Study

Wednesday, March 18

5:00 pm Parenting Way

WNA:

6:15 pm Adult Handbells

7:00 pm Adult Choir

7:30 pm AA

Friday, March 20

5:00 pm Men's Spring Retreat

6:30 pm Dinner w/ Friends

Saturday, March 21

8:00 am Men's Spring Retreat

9:00 am UCC Women

3:00 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

6:00 pm Matu Bethel Church

Upcoming Sundays

Sunday, March 22

9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

Sunday, March 29

9:00 am Adult Spiritual Formation

10:00 am Worship

Special Music: Adult Choir

11:00 am VBS Info Meeting

12:30 pm Matu Bethel Church

12:30 pm Light Mission Pentecostal Church

**No Adult Spiritual Formation Sunday, March 15th and
no Sunday School Sunday, March 15th and 22nd.**

UPDATE: The Listening Room will be unavailable due to construction and Family Promise until the end of March.

Adult Spiritual Formation Calendar

Today: NO ASF~ Spring Break

Next Sunday: “3 Great Loves: What is Your Faith Story?” Presenters: Bob Harding & Elsie Naylor

Easter Flowers

Have you put in an order for your Easter flowers? If you haven't done so, do it now. There are several varieties to choose from: Easter Lilies, Azaleas, Hydrangeas or Mums. Order envelopes are on the narthex table. **Orders are due TODAY!**

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Next Family Promise Week

Our next Family Promise opportunity along with St. Pius X is coming up soon-- **March 22-29 (Sunday to Sunday)**, when we will open our church to three families transitioning to permanent housing.

Plenty of slots are still open for meal, overnight, and kids' corner volunteers, as well as setup, tear down and laundry.

If you're available that week **please take a moment to see if there is a spot for you!** Either:

- check the big signup board in the Narthex at UUC
- go online to <https://signup.zone/uucc-fp>
- send Jon Duvick an email at jduvick@gmail.com and he can let you know what's available and sign you up.

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Dinner w/ Friends

This month we will be meeting Friday, March 20th, 6:30 pm at **Flying Mango**, 4345 Hickman Rd, Des Moines. Check out their website at <https://flyingmango.com/>

If you would like to join us for dinner, please rsvp Jeff Sontag at jeffsontag63@gmail.com or 515-554-2533 by Wednesday, March 18th so that reservations can be made.

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UUC Women Discuss Spirituality

Come join us **March 21st** for our women's fellowship. **9:00-9:30am**--Gathering time. **9:30-11:00am**--Program and Discussion. For our March meeting **Gail George will share what she is learning about the spirituality of the Maori, the indigenous people of New Zealand, from her recent trip there. There will also be opportunities to reflect on how your own beliefs compare.**

We invite ALL UUC Women who would like to explore **Mind/Body/Spirit/Heart** topics through conversation and activities. Please **RSVP** to jeanninedunn@gmail.com so we can prepare adequately.

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Vacation Bible School 2020

We will be having our Vacation Bible School information, orientation, etc. meeting on Sunday, March 29th at 11am in Fellowship Hall. We need activity leaders (crafts, science, games, storytelling), preschool helpers, people to get kids from one activity to another, snack helpers, and registration helpers. VBS is the week of July 12th - 16th from 5:30pm to 8:00pm. The sign-up sheet is on the table in the Narthex.

URBANDALE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.urbucc.org

www.facebook.com/UrbandaleUCC

“We welcome into this community of faith, and affirm the participation in all aspects of church life, persons of every age, race, gender identity and expression, nationality, ability, and sexual orientation. We will continue our efforts toward inclusiveness, and stand against all forms of discrimination. We will empower ourselves, our children, and one another to be fully present in the world, living in Christ’s image and striving for justice and peace.”

Staff

The Rev. David P. Sickelka, Senior Pastor..... david.sickelka@urbucc.org
The Rev. Amy Murray, Ministry Program Coordinator amy.murray@urbucc.org
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Children/Youth Choirs and Handbell Director bobby.stinnett@urbucc.org
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Sadmira & Umihana Omerhodzic, Custodian sadmira.omerhodzic@urbucc.org
The Rev. John Chaplin
Adjunct Minister for LGBTQ Concerns & Community Outreach john.chaplin@urbucc.org

Ministry Leaders

Caregiving Ministries:

Caregivers, Homebound Rachel Siegel..... caregivers.1@urbucc.org
Care Connectors..... care.connectors@urbucc.org
Listening Room..... listening.room@urbucc.org
Prayer Circle prayer.circle@urbucc.org
Prayer Shawl Ministry prayer.shawls@urbucc.org

Leadership Team:

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Membership Team Jon Greising..... membership.team@urbucc.org
Small Groups Liaison Rachel Siegel..... small.groups@urbucc.org
Worship Team Patricia Goldberg..... worship.team@urbucc.org
At Large Members: Kathy Marean, Jennifer Gardner, Wesley Keeler

Other Contacts:

Building & Grounds..... B&G.team@urbucc.org
Social Media Team Sandy Gahn social.media@urbucc.org

Church Office hours are Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

For pastoral care, please contact Pastor Dave at 276-0625 (church office), 720-6389 (cell) or david.sickelka@urbucc.org. Pastor Dave is off on Mondays but will still respond to emergencies if you call or text.